

DISTRICT II ADVISORY BOARD

Minutes – April 3, 2000

The District II Advisory Board meeting was held at 7 p.m. at the Patrol East Substation, 350 S. Edgemoor.

Members Present

David Babich
Tom Byrne
Michele Chauncey
Tod Ford
Charlotte Foster
Mary Herrin
Hannah Ho*
Alice James*
Shirley Jefferson
George Laham
Susan Leasure
Mike Pompeo

Members Absent

Mike Colgan*
John Fuller*
Eric Russell*
Gene Camarena

Guests

Steve Lackey, Public Works
Mike Lindebak, City Engineer
Jamsheed Mehta, MAPD
Sgt. Walker Andrews, WPD

* Denotes alternate DAB member

Council Member Joe Pisciotte called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

The agenda was approved.

No Items were submitted for the public agenda, unfinished business, or the planning agenda.

COUNCIL AGENDA

1. Overview of Rock Road

Steve Lackey, Director of Public Works, reported the Rock Road corridor was designated by the City Council as a study area to determine improvements to Rock Road which would address the traffic issues facing Rock Road.

A consulting firm compiled a Rock Road Corridor study in August, 1997. The study dealt with how to improve traffic flow along Rock Road from Pawnee Street to 45th St. North. Mike Lindebak, City Engineer, provided a general overview of recommended changes to Rock Road. The report contained several proposed changes to the existing structures. Mike Lindebak delineated the proposed changes by section between major cross streets. (Kellogg, Douglas, Central, 13th, 21st, 29th, 37th) Board Members expressed concern on the number of lanes, design of medians, widening of certain areas, removal of train tracks and removal of islands.

Lindebak stated that the recommended changes were based on traffic projections. The projections are determined by taking a current traffic count and factoring in growth projections. The changes are scheduled to begin next year and will take over a year to complete.

Council Member Pisciotte inquired about proposals to remove traffic from Rock Road to other major streets going North and South, and widening Webb Rd. to four lanes. Lindebak discussed existing changes being made to 13th, 21st and 29th, in an effort to divert traffic. The design of 37th requires some change due to kink in the road; four lanes are possible, but the lanes would be narrow.

Jahmsheed Mehta, Transportation Planner, presented information based on the transportation plan which forecasts traffic developments over a thirty year period. He mentioned that Rock Road is the busiest non-highway thoroughfare in Wichita. Mehta issued handouts detailing average daily travel projections in 2030. Traffic projections are made using software which analyzes the number of lanes, average daily travel (adt) and other variables. Lackey discussed other restraints, such as balancing safety and needed access to business, and the limitations on the number of lanes possible due to rights of way.

The board members discussed the need to acknowledge the importance of business centers along Rock Road with the need to correct safety, congestion and convenience issues.

Sgt. Walker Andrews discussed the Patrol East concentration on Rock Road during the month of April. The focus will be along Rock Road from Harry Street to 37th St. North. Last year there were 733 accidents on Rock road, one fourth were injury accidents. Rock Road is a source of constant citizen complaints. During the course of three and one half hours, on Monday April 3rd, officers wrote 160 citations.

2. Board Organization

Council Member Pisciotte appointed Michele Chauncey 1st Chair Pro Tem and Mike Pompeo 2nd Chair Pro Tem. He discussed the handling of planning and traffic cases. The DAB discussed the use of adhoc subcommittees.

A subcommittee consisting of Susan Leasure and Tod Ford was appointed to handle a developing traffic issue near the Rock Road and Tipperary/Killarney street intersections.

With no further business the meeting adjourned at 10:00 p.m.

Submitted by,

Donte Martin
Neighborhood Assistant, District II